



UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON 20547

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May 18, 1972

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

NSC - John Holdridge

SUBJECT: USIA Activities Targeted Against NVN

Voice of America covers all of North Viet-Nam with strong medium and short wave signals. There is no evidence of jamming. The following assets are employed:

- million-watt medium wave transmitter at Poro Point, Philippines
- 50,000 watt medium wave transmitter at Hue
- 3 short wave transmitters at Tinang, Philippines

Since the North Vietnamese invasion, VOA's signal has been upgraded through the use of satellite relays (at the cost of an additional \$26,000 per month). VOA broadcasts five hours daily during prime evening time (6PM - 11 PM local). Hue transmitter carries an additional hour repeating the previous hours's programming (6PM - midnight local). Total programming on medium wave has been more than doubled since the President's new initiative.

Radio receivers are available in North Viet-Nam. Conservative estimates place the number at 75,000, and we believe they are primarily in the hands of cadre and military personnel. In addition, DRV official monitoring services have the capability of reviewing the content of VOA broadcasts for the NVN leadership.

Programming content of VOA Vietnamese broadcasts to the North has included the following:

- President's May 8 announcement was carried in full translation and repeated four times on May 9 (Hanoi time.)

State Dept. review completed

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- detailed accounts of all major statements by top US officials, including the Secretaries of State and Defense, and various USG press spokesmen
- coverage of restrained Chinese and Russian reaction
- emphasis given Zeigler statements on favorable White House mail and public opinion polls showing 75 percent support for President
- coverage of USDEL Paris statements and USG reaction to Madame Binh's comments
- VOA war correspondent reports emphasizing positive side of military situation and public support for GVN in the South
- editorial reaction and official statements of other governments (UK, France, Australia, Thailand, Austria, West Germany)

VOA is also feeding special reports in Vietnamese for use on South Viet-Nam's national radio, which has a signal that spills over into the North.

The USIA Wireless File (which can be monitored by North Viet-Nam) has carried texts of all major statements and press conferences; also summaries and quotes from editorial and official comment. Following are illustrative:

- President's May 8 announcement
- Dr. Kissinger's press conference
- Secretary Laird's Press Conference of May 10
- Poll Showing Support for the President
- AFL-CIO support of President

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- James Reston's analysis that the President's proposal is "realistic"

All JUSPAO activities are presumed to have some impact on VC cadres and NVN units in South Viet-Nam. Specifically, JUSPAO has done the following in the past few days:

- arranged for GVN radio to repeat excerpts from the President's speech and carry follow-up stories
- placed numerous TV clips on U.S. air operations on GVN-TV
- arranged for leaflets targeted against NVA units to be printed at the USIA plant in Manila and at the GVN military press



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